

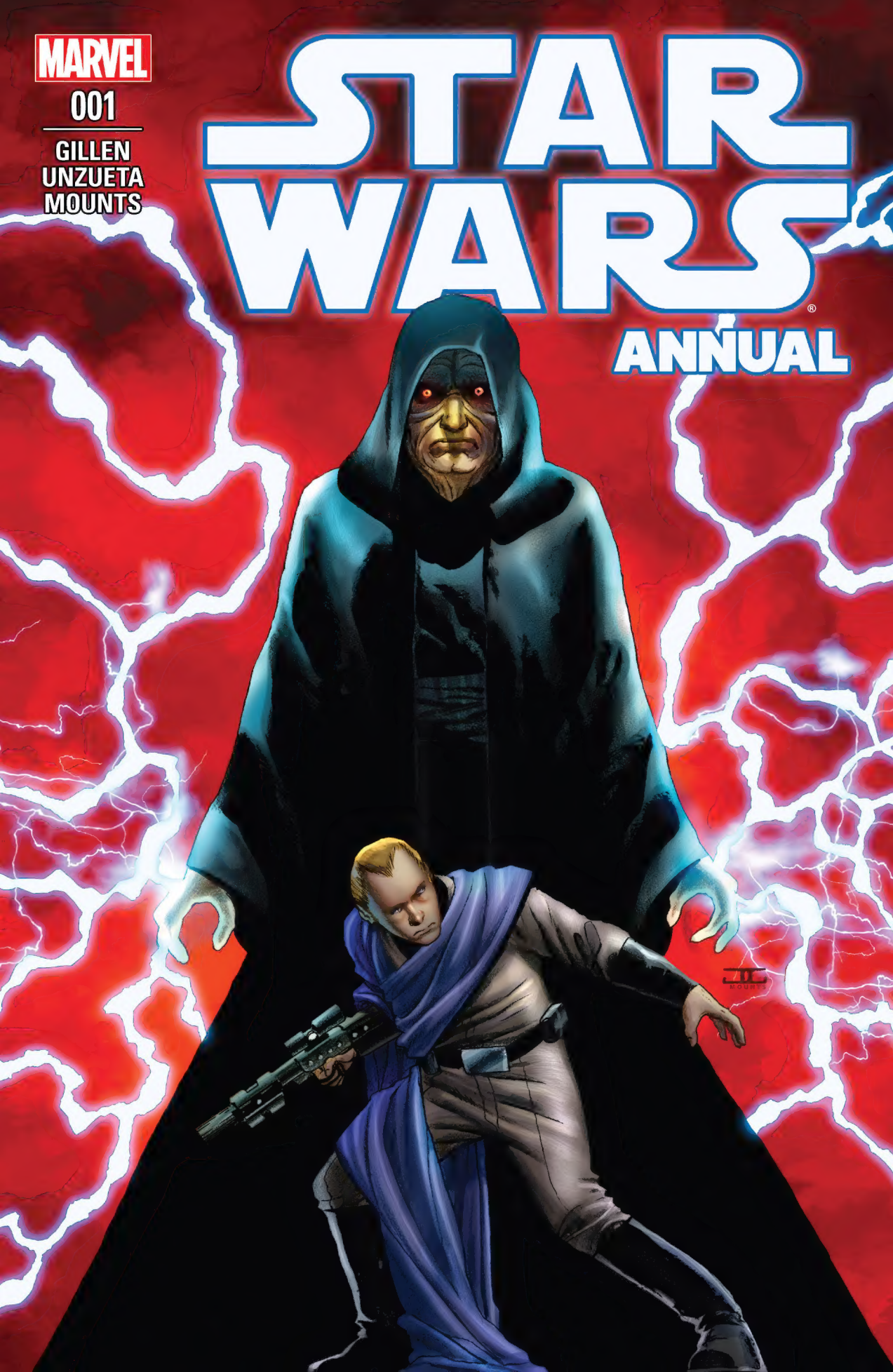
MARVEL

001

GILLEN
UNZUETA
MOUNTS

STAR WARS

ANNUAL



STAR WARS

Annual

It is an era of renewed hope for the Rebellion.

The evil Galactic Empire's greatest weapon, the Death Star, has been destroyed by the young rebel pilot, Luke Skywalker. But Imperial forces still stand strong.

Rebel spy Eneb Ray has infiltrated Coruscant, working under an Imperial guise and the name Tharius Demo. He quickly learns that some missions prove to be much more complicated than others....

KIERON GILLEN
Writer

ANGEL UNZUETA
Artist

PAUL MOUNTS
Colorist

VC's JOE CARAMAGNA
Letterer

**JOHN CASSADAY
& PAUL MOUNTS**
Cover Artists

HEATHER ANTOS
Assistant Editor

JORDAN D. WHITE
Editor

**C.B.
CEBULSKI**
Executive Editor

**AXEL
ALONSO**
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**JOE
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**DAN
BUCKLEY**
Publisher

For Lucasfilm:

Senior Editor **FRANK PARISI**

Creative Director **MICHAEL SIGLAIN**

Lucasfilm Story Group **RAYNE ROBERTS, PABLO HIDALGO,
LELAND CHEE**



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Coruscant.

SOME PEOPLE
GET TO BE
HEROES.

NOW, SIR,
AS WE CAN
BOTH SEE, YOUR
EXPORT BUSINESS
HAS CONSIDERABLE
TAXES IN
ARREARS...



IMPORT AND EXPORT DUTIES INCREASED NOW APPLY TO ALL CORUSCANT TRAFFIC

EX-SENATORS TRIAL IMMINENT. EMPEROR PROMISES JUSTICE



YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, DEMO. WE MADE THE RUN BASED ON THE PREVIOUS EXPORT TITHE.

THARIUS DEMO DOESN'T GET THAT LUXURY.

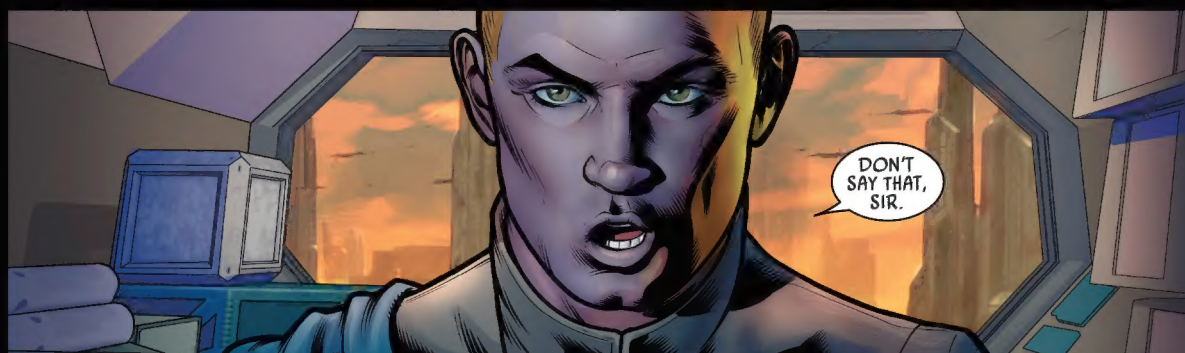
WE NEVER RECEIVED AN UPDATE THAT IT HAD CHANGED! I CAN'T PAY THIS!

I'M SORRY, SIR. THAT ISN'T MY PROBLEM.



MY FAMILY IS GOING TO STARVE!

WHEN THE REBELLION COMES INTO TOWN, YOU'RE--



DON'T SAY THAT, SIR.



IF YOU SAY THAT, I'LL HAVE TO FILE A REPORT.



YOUR FAMILY'S
ABILITY TO PAY
YOUR TAXES WILL BE
NEGATIVELY IMPACTED
BY YOUR
INCARCERATION.

IN MY
EXPERIENCE, HAVING
YOUR CHILDREN SOLD
INTO SLAVERY TO COVER
YOUR LOSSES TENDS TO
BE AN EMOTIONALLY
DISTRESSING TIME.



DON'T SAY
ANYTHING.



I'M TRYING
TO SAVE
YOUR LIFE.



YOU'LL
GET YOUR
MONEY.



NOT MY
MONEY,
SIR.

THAT? THAT WAS
AS GOOD AS IT
GETS WHEN I'M
THARIUS DEMO.

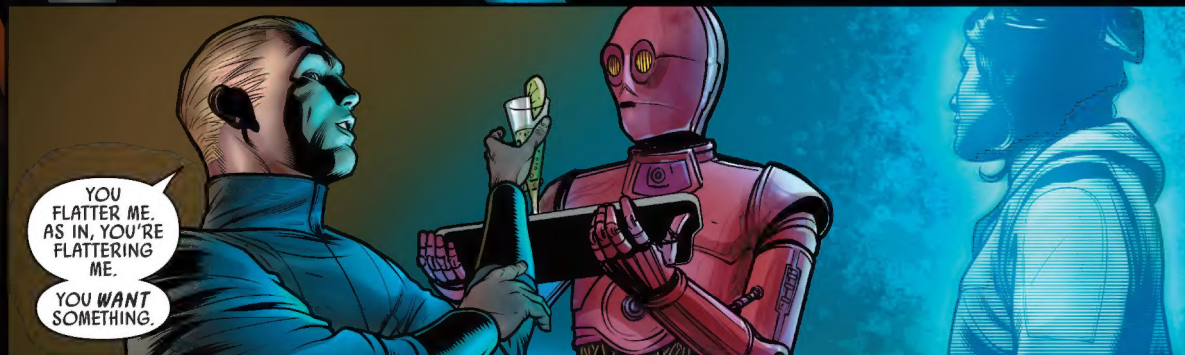




YOU DO
KNOW WHEN THE BOTHANS
REPORT THEY SAY, "I'LL
NEVER MATCH ENEB RAY...
BUT I HOPE THIS WILL BE
OF SOME USE."

THE PRINCESS IS
YOUNG...BUT SHE HAS
YEARS OF TRAINING
FOR THIS.

SHE JUST DIDN'T
THINK SHE'D BE
DOING IT YET....



YOU
FLATTER ME.
AS IN, YOU'RE
FLATTERING
ME.
YOU WANT
SOMETHING.



SENATOR
NADEA TURAL AND
THE ANTI-IMPERIAL
SENATORS ARE
ABOUT TO BE
EXECUTED.

WE NEED
YOU TO EXTRACT
THEM FROM
ARRTH-ENO.



I'M
SORRY, YOUR
MAJESTY.

THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE.

WE HAVE MAPS, RELEVANT
ACCESS CODES AND A
SHIP WILLING TO SMUGGLE
THEM OFF
CORUSCANT.

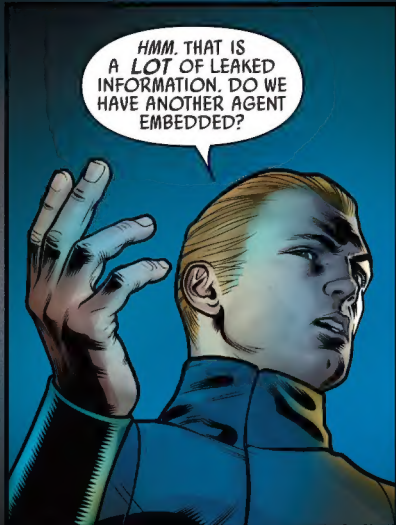


MY
MISTAKE, YOUR
MAJESTY. NOT
"IMPOSSIBLE."

MERELY
"VERY
DIFFICULT."



HMM. THAT IS
A LOT OF LEAKED
INFORMATION. DO WE
HAVE ANOTHER AGENT
EMBEDDED?

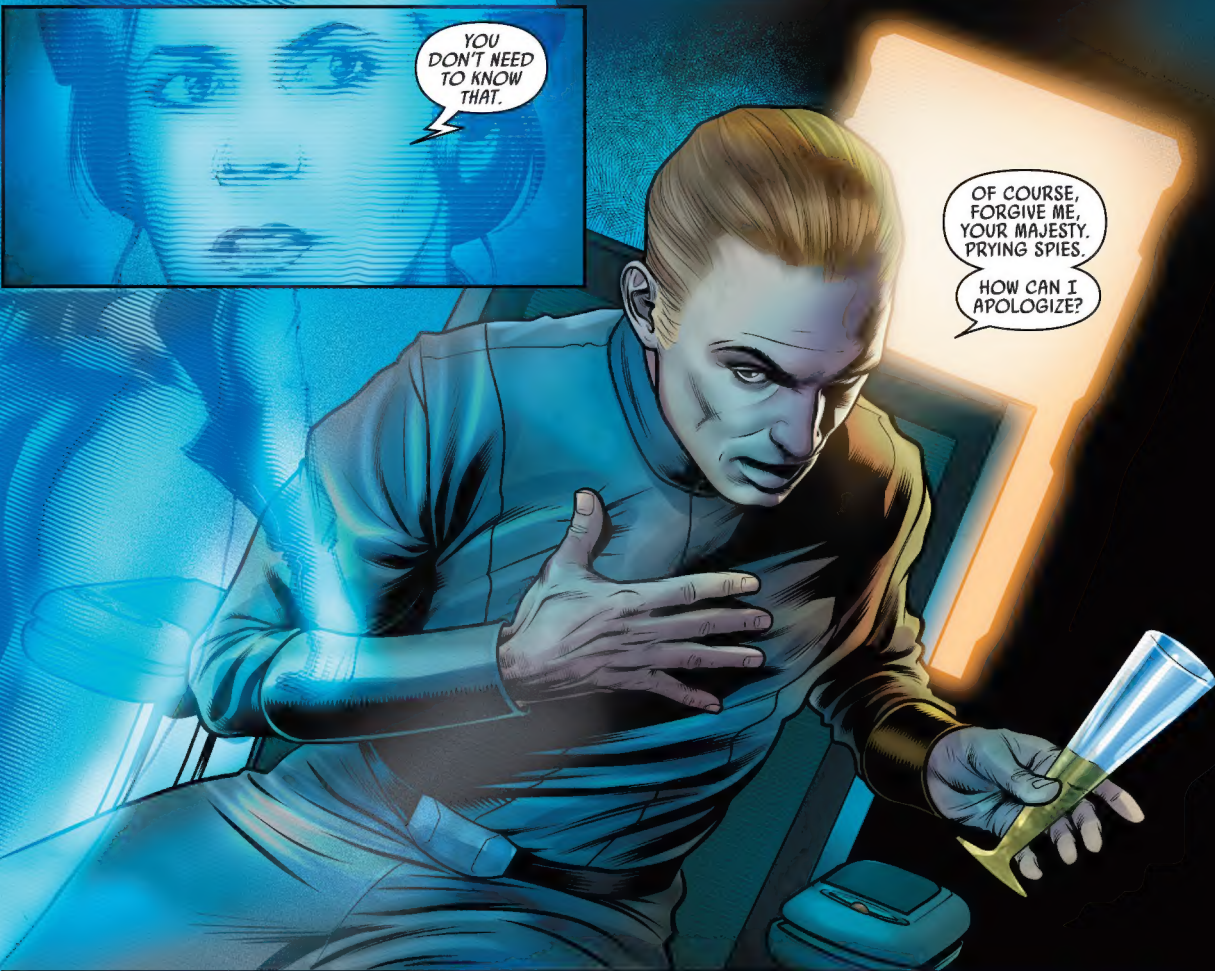


YOU
DON'T NEED
TO KNOW
THAT.



OF COURSE,
FORGIVE ME,
YOUR MAJESTY.
PRYING SPIES.

HOW CAN I
APOLOGIZE?



JUST
DO WHAT YOU
DO BEST,
ENEB.

SAVE THE
SENATORS.



SHE TREATS ME
AS A HERO. IT'S
JUST POLITENESS.
SHE KNOWS BETTER.

Arrth-Eno
Prison Complex,
Coruscant.



SHE KNOWS ABOUT
TCOLEET III. THE RINGS
OF ALIOS. THE BODIES
FLOATING IN THE FENG
APPROACH...

...SHE KNOWS
I'LL DO
WHATEVER IS
REQUIRED.



HOW MANY REBEL SPIES ARE THERE ACTUALLY ON CORUSCANT?



I DON'T KNOW.

I KNOW IT'S FEW.



NONE OF US CAN AFFORD TO DIE.



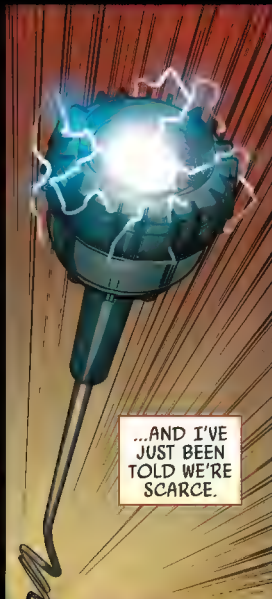
ESPECIALLY LIKE *THIS*.



PART OF ME
HOPES I'VE
BEEN LIED TO.



THAT THERE'RE
HUNDREDS OF
US HERE...



...AND I'VE
JUST BEEN
TOLD WE'RE
SCARCE.



SO IF I'M
CAPTURED AND
TAKEN TO A
PLACE LIKE THIS
COMPLEX...



...SEWN
INTO THE
EMPIRE'S
TORTURE
MACHINES...



...WELL, I KNOW
I'LL RESIST AS
LONG AS I CAN...



...BUT THEY
HAVE THEIR
WAYS.



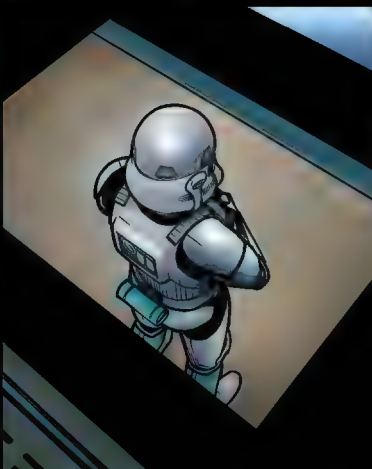
THEY KNOW
EVERY TRICK
I DO.



EVENTUALLY,
I'LL BREAK AND
SPILL ALL THE
SECRETS...

...AND MY BELIEF THAT
THERE'S ONLY A FEW
OF US DOWN HERE IS
JUST MISINFORMATION
TO BE FED TO THE
IMPERIALS.

I'D LIKE THAT
TO BE TRUE. I
KNOW IT'S NOT.



IT'S THE STRENGTH
OF WILL TO BE AS
RUTHLESS AS YOUR
COVER REQUIRES.

TO GET THE JOB
DONE, NO MATTER
WHAT.

OCCASIONALLY,
CHARMINGLY.

SENATORS....

I'M AFRAID
YOUR EXECUTION
HAS BEEN DELAYED
INDEFINITELY.

OH, MY.
THIS IS AN
INCREDIBLE
OPPORTUNITY.

IT IS. TO
SAVE YOUR
LIVES.

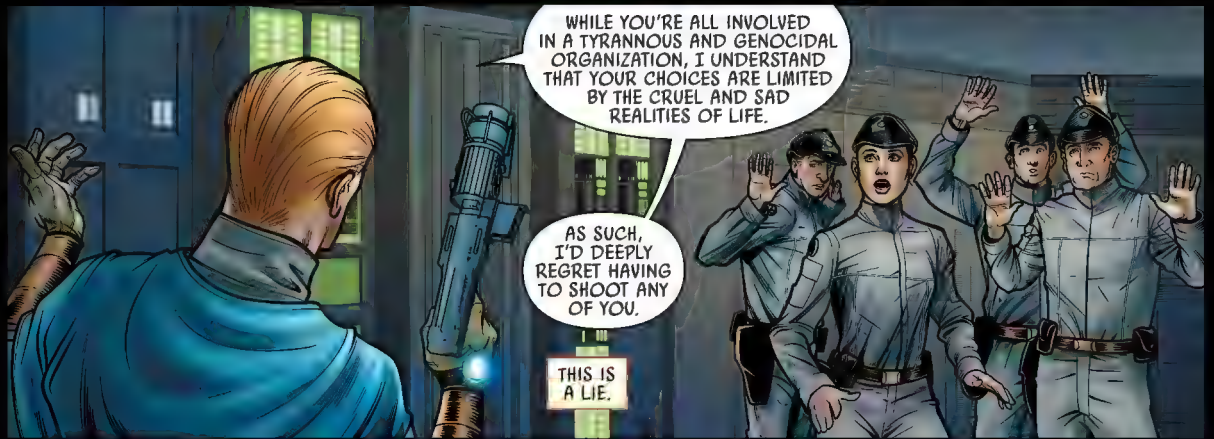
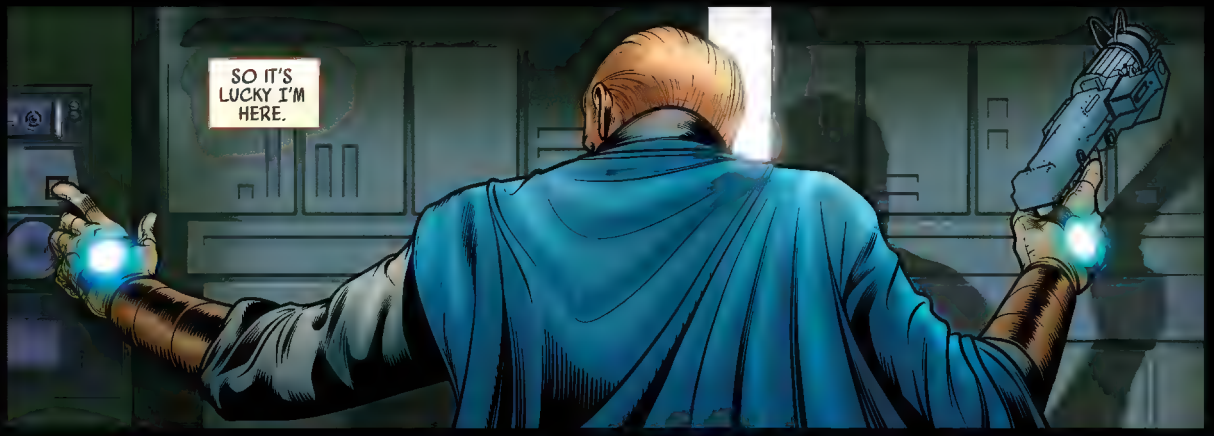
LET'S
GO.

YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND. THE
EMPEROR...

...HE'S
COMING
HERE.

TELL ME
EVERYTHING.

I'M NOT
A HERO.

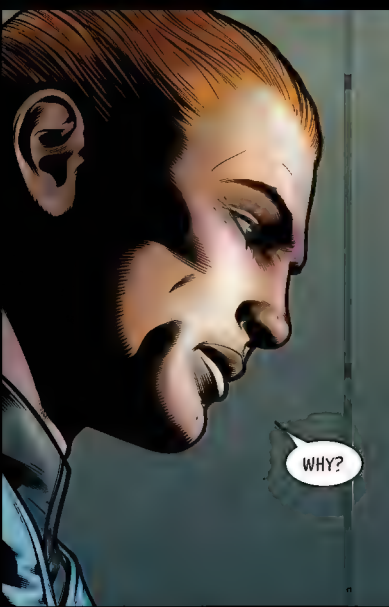




WELL DONE. I GUESS WE'RE ALL GOING TO BE ALIVE TOMORROW.

EVERYONE GET BACK IN HERE...

I NEED TO STAY.



WHY?



YOU'RE TRYING TO SEND A MESSAGE. IF YOU'RE GOING TO CONTACT THE PRINCESS, YOU'RE GOING TO REVEAL HER LOCATION.

I CAN RUN THE SCRAMBLER.



I'M ENEB RAY. YOU'RE THE MOLE. YOU'VE JUST BLOWN YOUR COVER.

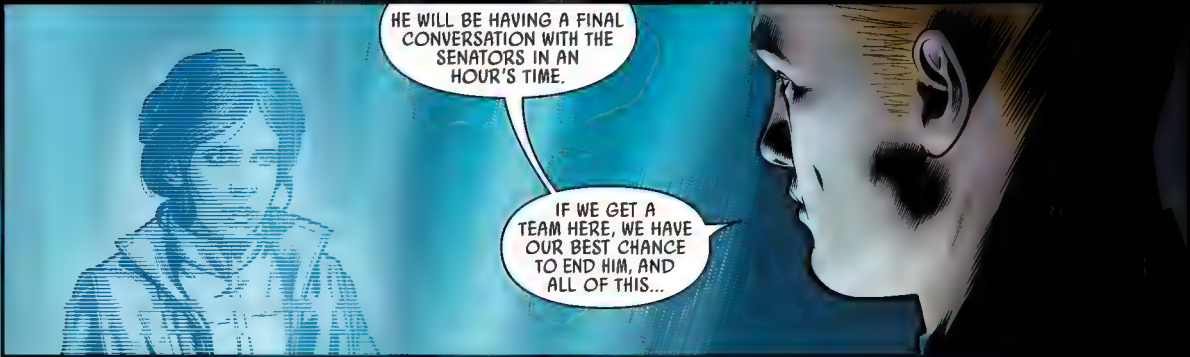
I'M COLEET. YOU'VE JUST BLOWN MY COVER.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TRYING, BUT IT BETTER BE WORTH IT.



ENEB! WHAT'S WRONG?

NOTHING. THE EMPEROR'S JUST WALKED INTO OUR CROSSHAIRS.



HE WILL BE HAVING A FINAL CONVERSATION WITH THE SENATORS IN AN HOUR'S TIME.

IF WE GET A TEAM HERE, WE HAVE OUR BEST CHANCE TO END HIM, AND ALL OF THIS...



I HAVE A PLAN. WE OWN THE BATTLEGROUND. WE HAVE SECURITY CONTROL.

FOR ONCE, WE GET A CHANCE AT THE EMPEROR IN A PLACE OF OUR CHOOSING...

WHAT DO YOU NEED?



WHAT CAN WE GET HERE IN TIME?

I NEED THAT.



IF THIS FAILS, WE'LL HAVE NO AGENTS LEFT ON CORUSCANT.

THIS IS AN ENORMOUS RISK.

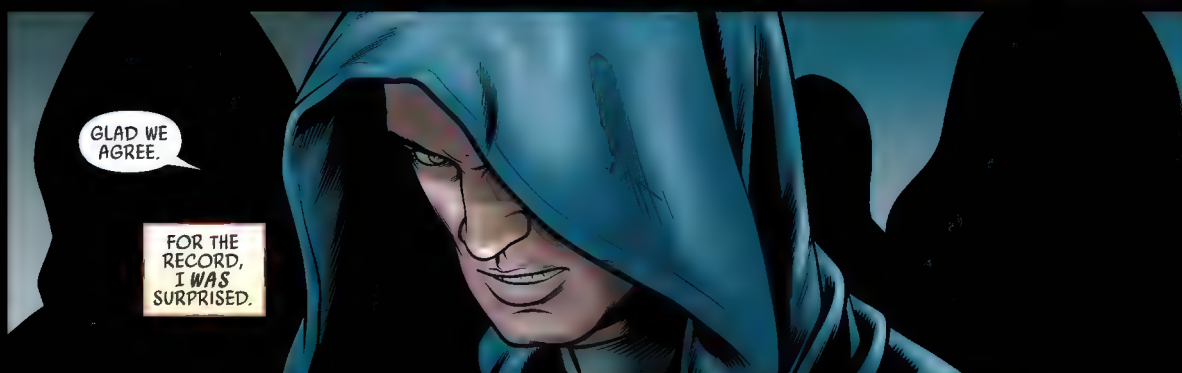


SO WAS YAVIN.



AH.
SENATOR
TURAL.

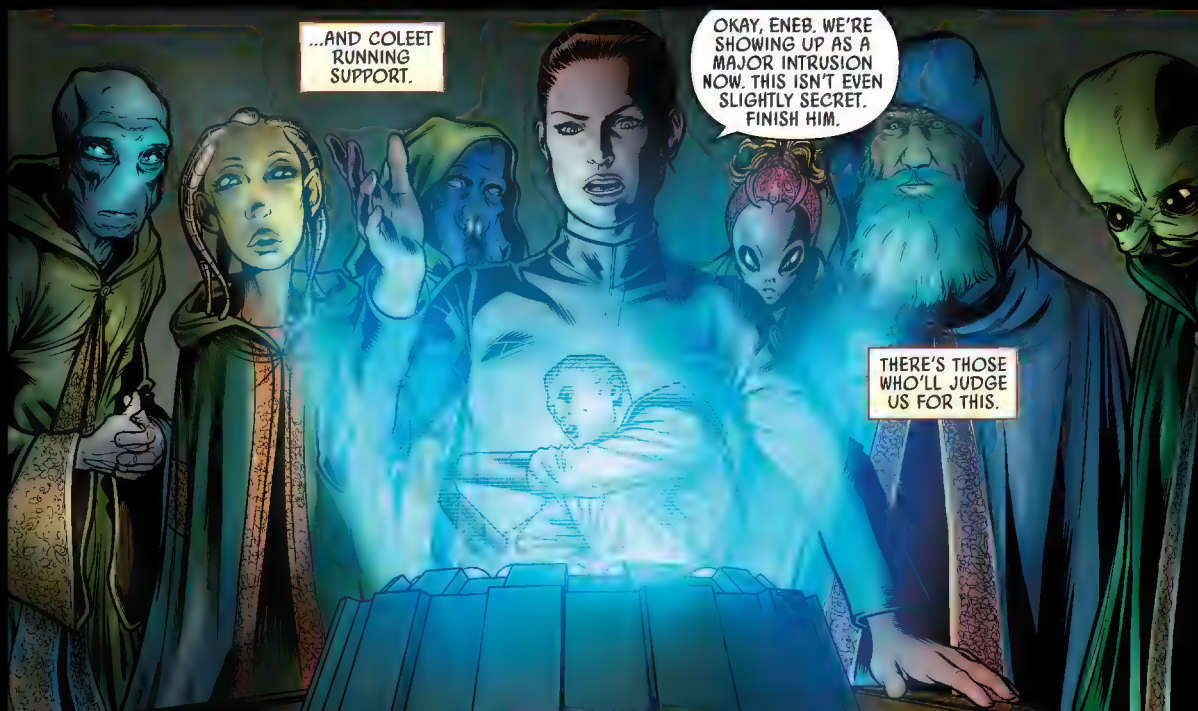
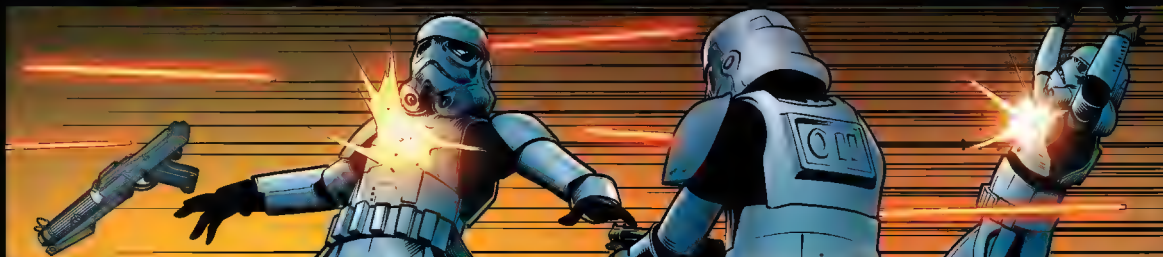
GOOD
TO SEE YOU
AGAIN.







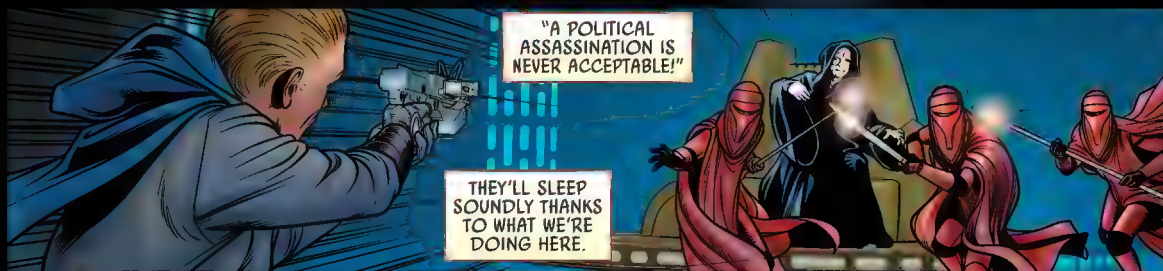
SIX OF US
HERE...



...AND COLEET
RUNNING
SUPPORT.

OKAY, ENEB, WE'RE
SHOWING UP AS A
MAJOR INTRUSION
NOW. THIS ISN'T EVEN
SLIGHTLY SECRET.
FINISH HIM.

THERE'S THOSE
WHO'LL JUDGE
US FOR THIS.



"A POLITICAL
ASSASSINATION IS
NEVER ACCEPTABLE!"

THEY'LL SLEEP
SOUNDLY THANKS
TO WHAT WE'RE
DOING HERE.



TO STOP
SOMEONE AS
BAD AS THE
EMPEROR?



YOU NEED
SOMEONE WILLING
TO BE AS BAD
AS HE IS.

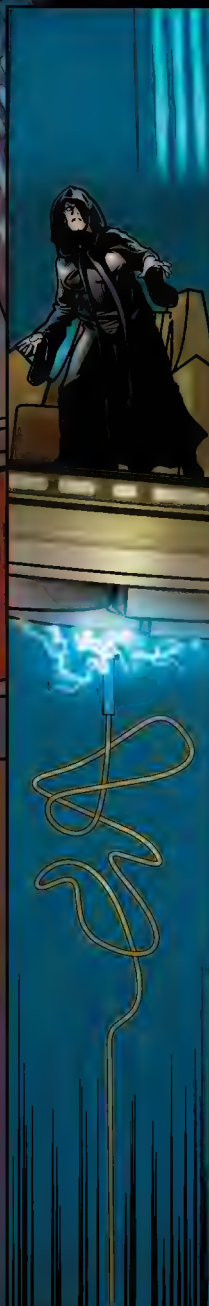


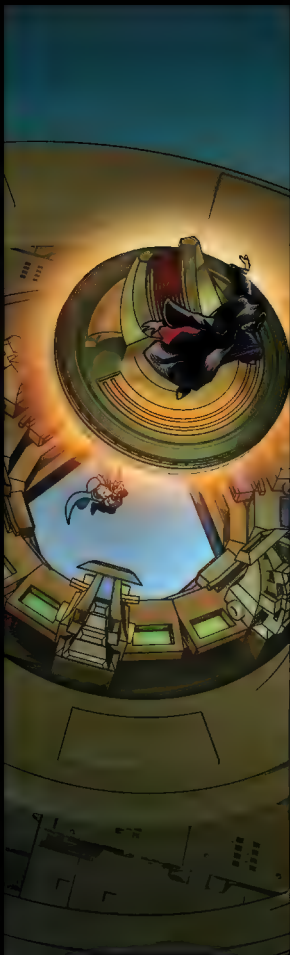
IF ONLY FOR
THE TIME IT
TAKES TO PULL
A TRIGGER.

WITH THE
COMPLIMENTS OF
ALDERAAN, MY
EMPEROR.



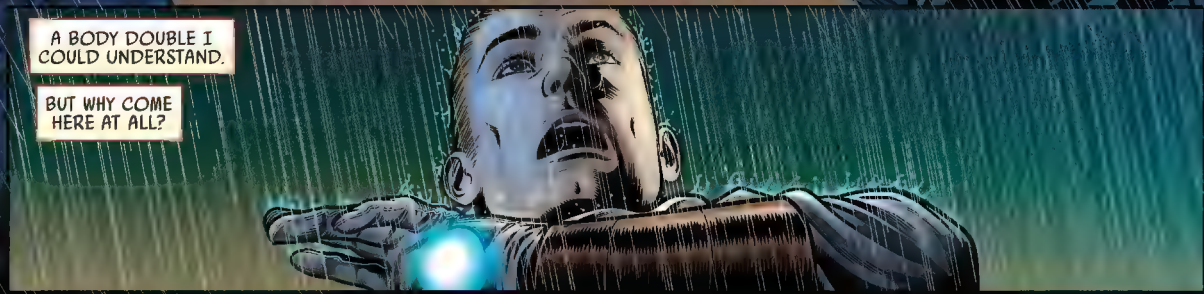
OH MY.
REBELS.





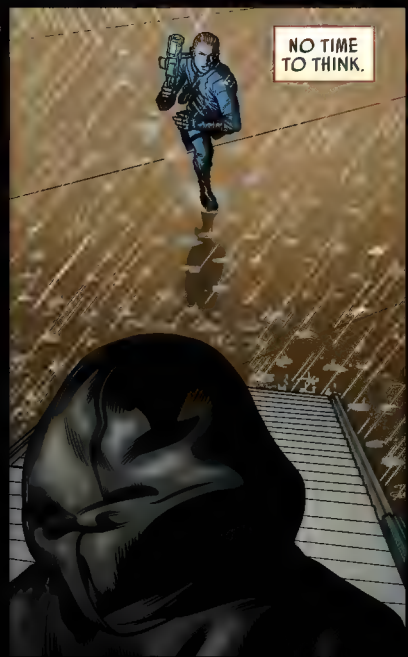


A GOOD
DECOY IS
HARD TO
FIND.

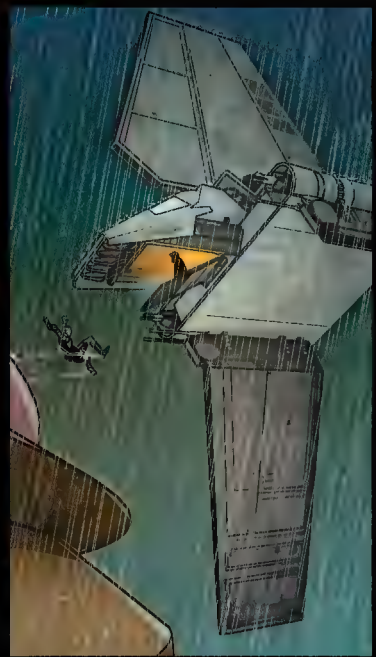


A BODY DOUBLE I
COULD UNDERSTAND.

BUT WHY COME
HERE AT ALL?



NO TIME
TO THINK.



STILL A
CHANCE TO
MAKE THIS
MATTER.



A MOMENT
OF TERRIBLE
REALIZATION.



I'M
FOOLING
MYSELF.



THERE WAS
NEVER A
CHANCE.

I'M NOT
ANYTHING LIKE
THE EMPEROR.

I'M NOT EVEN
THE SAME
SPECIES OF
MONSTER.

THE ONLY THING
WE HAVE IN COMMON
IS KNOWING WHAT'S
KEY TO ANY PLAN...



REDUNDANCY.



NADEA
TURAL.

COLEET.



THE
SENATORS.

THE
SPIES.

ALL
THE OTHER
PRISONERS.



ALL THOSE
STORMTROOPERS.

HIS
PERSONAL
GUARD.

HIS
DUPLICATE
BAIT.

ME,
NEARLY.



ALL
DEAD.

I THOUGHT OF THE
ONCE-LIVING ASH
FLOATING UP AND THE
MAN RESPONSIBLE...



...AND I REALIZED
HOW PERFECT
HE WAS.



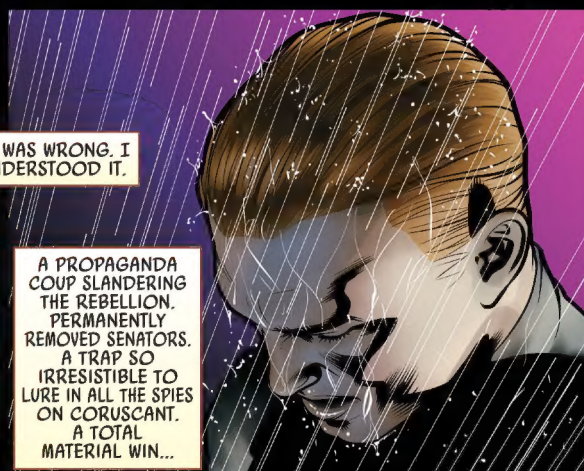
THE SENATORS
WERE BEING TRANSPORTED
TO THEIR LONG-AWAITED TRIAL,
WHERE WE ARE SURE HOW THEY
WERE COERCED INTO BETRAYING
THE EMPIRE WOULD HAVE
BEEN REVEALED...

BUT THE REBELS
HAVE NO INTEREST
IN TRUTH, JUSTICE OR THE
RULE OF LAW. THEY USED
THESE SENATORS UP, AND
THEN DISCARDED THEM IN
THIS ACT OF SHOCKING
TERRORISM.

THE AARTH-ENO
CUSTODIAL
COMPLEX LIES IN
RUINS, TESTAMENT
TO THEIR
MONSTROSITY.



IT IS HARD
TO UNDERSTAND
SUCH SENSELESS
BRUTALITY.



HE WAS WRONG. I
UNDERSTOOD IT.

A PROPAGANDA
COUP SLANDERING
THE REBELLION.
PERMANENTLY
REMOVED SENATORS.
A TRAP SO
IRRISISTIBLE TO
LURE IN ALL THE SPIES
ON CORUSCANT.
A TOTAL
MATERIAL WIN...

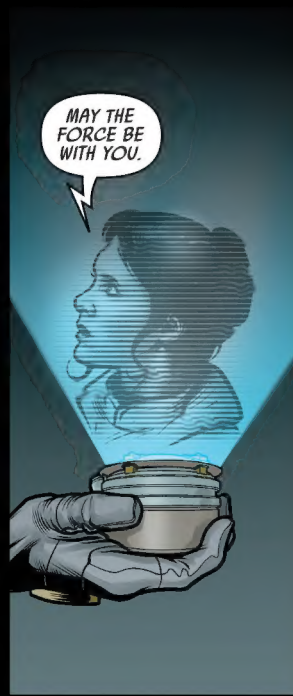


...AND HE CAME ALONG, JUST TO WATCH US BURN.

HE'S SO GOOD, IN EVERY WAY BUT ETHICALLY.



YOU'VE GOT TWO SECONDS TO IDENTIFY YOURSELF...



MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU.



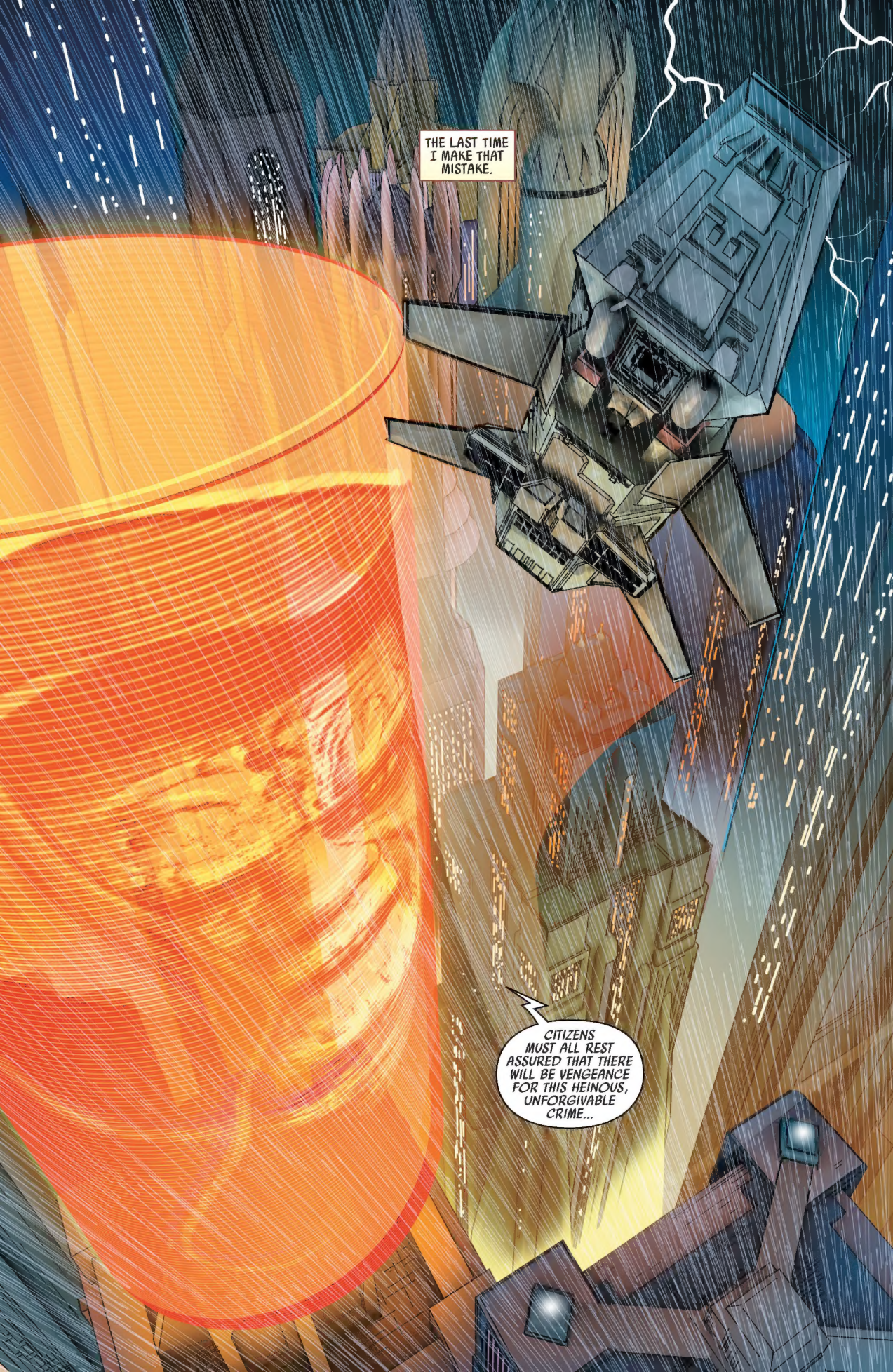
I SAW THE BROADCASTS.

WHAT WENT WRONG?



I WAS NAIVE.

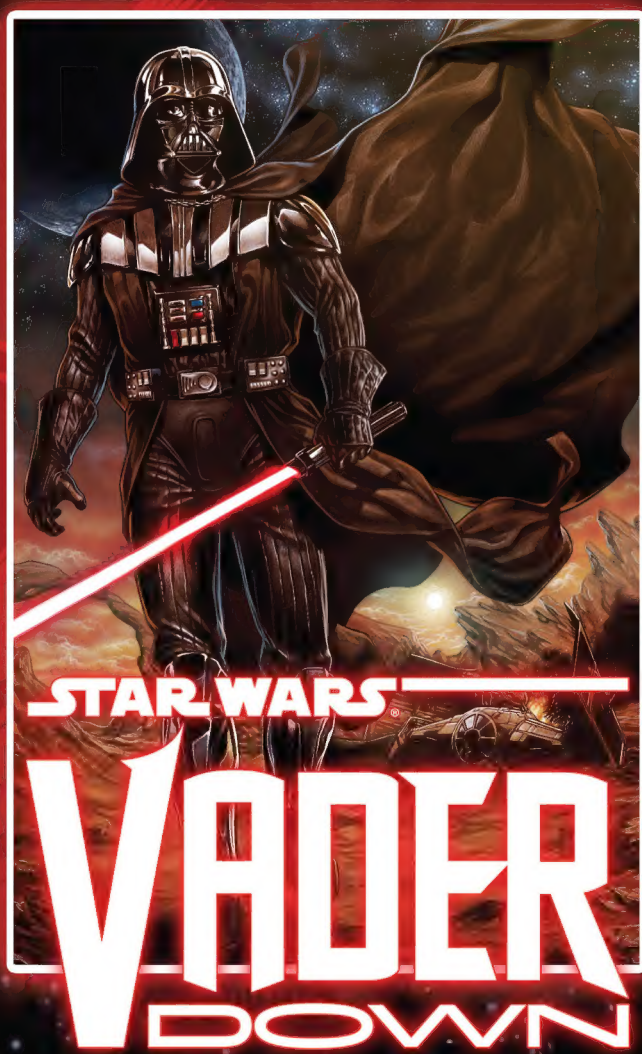
I WAS A HERO PRETENDING TO BE THE MAN WILLING TO MAKE HARD DECISIONS.



THE LAST TIME
I MAKE THAT
MISTAKE.

CITIZENS
MUST ALL REST
ASSURED THAT THERE
WILL BE VENGEANCE
FOR THIS HEINOUS,
UNFORGIVABLE
CRIME...

THE SAGA CONTINUES IN...



- ☐ **VADER DOWN #1 - PART 1**
- ☐ **DARTH VADER #13 - PART 2**
- ☐ **STAR WARS #13 - PART 3**
- ☐ **DARTH VADER #14 - PART 4**
- ☐ **STAR WARS #14 - PART 5**
- ☐ **DARTH VADER #15 - PART 6**